

a⁷
547 parts of a low molecular weight poly(m-xylylene adipamide) with IV of about 0.44 dL/g, 129 parts of organo montmorillonite clay containing a tether, octadecyl methyl bis(hydroxyethyl) ammonium chloride, an organoclay available from Southern Clay Products, and 39.8 parts of cobalt(II) acetate tetrahydrate were dry mixed then dried at 80°C overnight in a vacuum oven. The mixture was then extruded on the Leistritz Micro 18 corotating twin screw extruder equipped with a general compounding screw at a temperature of about 240-245°C, with screw speed of about 300 rpm, and a feed rate of about 2 kg/hr. The material was air-cooled on a casting belt then pelletized upon exiting the extruder. After the extrusion was complete, about 40 parts of the pellets were dry-mixed with about 960 parts of CB11, a polyester available from Eastman Chemical Company. The mixture was then extruded on a Killion single screw extruder at a temperature of about 280°C, with screw speed of about 50 rpm. The material was extruded into 5-mil thick film. This film exhibited good carbon dioxide barrier and oxygen consumption.

In the Claims

Please rewrite Claims 1, 11, 13, and 14 as follows:

a⁸ sub 7.
b¹
(Amended) A polymer-platelet particle composite comprising at least one polyamide, at least one oxygen scavenging system, and platelet particles from at least one layered silicate material.

a⁹
11. (Amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein said oxygen scavenging catalyst is selected from the group consisting of the first, second, and third transition series of the Periodic Table of the Elements.

a¹⁰
13. (Amended) The composition of claim 12 wherein said cobalt compound is selected from the group consisting of cobalt salts of organic acids, cobalt acetates, cobalt halides, and mixtures thereof.